

SBDC CLIENT SUCCESS

SBDC at Bear Paw Development Corporation
-Havre, MT | Helena, MT-

Triple Divide Spirits

Triple Divide Spirits produces high-quality spirits including vodka and gin from homegrown Montana grains.



Background:

Karen Powell and her husband, J.P. Crowley, had long dreamed of opening their own spirits distillery in Helena, Montana. After months of planning, they were finally ready to make their vision a reality. Karen registered Triple Divide Spirits in June 2012, and J.P., the distillery's Product Development Manager and Lead Distiller, attended distillery school shortly thereafter.

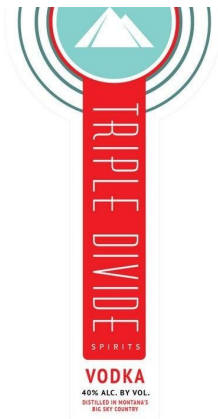
Assistance:

Karen was referred to the SBDC as well as the Food and Agriculture Development Center (FADC) at Bear Paw Development Corporation in Havre for assistance in identifying possible funding sources to aid in the financing of their new endeavor.

Joe LaPlante, Director of the SBDC, and Tiffany Melby of the FADC worked with Karen and J.P. to develop their business plan and finalize their cash flow projections. The financial package helped the couple obtain funding from a local bank in Helena.

Impact:

The funding secured was used to finance the operation's headquarters on Front Street in Helena and order custom-made stills from Missouri. Triple Divide plans to have spirits available in many Montana liquor stores and bars beginning in late spring and early summer 2013.



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